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S E C R E T KUWAIT 003044

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/ESC/ESP (GLASS)  
STATE FOR S/CT (FOX)  
STATE FOR IO/PHO (PEREZ)  
STATE FOR NEA/ARP AND NEA/RA  
TREASURY FOR GENERAL COUNSEL AUFHAUSER  
TREASURY FOR OFAC DIRECTOR NEWCOMB  
TREASURY FOR DASS FOR TERRORISM AND VIOLENT CRIMES (ZARATE)  
TREASURY FOR TASK FORCE ON TERRORIST FINANCING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/08/2013

TAGS: [EFIN](#) [ETTC](#) [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KU](#)

SUBJECT: TERRORIST FINANCING: POST IN-HOUSE VIEWS ON  
POTENTIAL HAMAS-LINKED TARGETS FOR ASSET FREEZE DESIGNATION

REF: A. A. STATE 194837

[1](#)B. B. STATE 193410

[1](#)C. C. KUWAIT 1221

[1](#)D. D. STATE 79970

Classified By: PER REFTEL B DTG 030106Z JUL 03

[1](#)1. (S) Summary: Post-election Kuwait's somewhat defused political environment offers greater latitude than before for USG action. Post confirms Ref C recommendation that absent substantive evidence linking certain Islamic charities to terrorist activity, USG interests might best be served via collaboration with GOK oversight authorities and perhaps select officials of the concerned charities as well. Should such efforts fail, E.O. 13224 designation immediately would be appropriate. End Summary.

[1](#)2. (S/NF) In response to Ref B request for update, Post confirms Ref C core recommendations regarding the Social Reform Society (Jamiyat al-Islah al-Ijtima 'Ikuwait) (SRS). Absent substantive evidence of SRS key management witting support for terrorism, USG might consider a direct approach to SRS leadership. This would follow consultation with the GOK's new Office of Charity Oversight and Supervision (OCOS) within the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor. A collaborative review of our concerns, first with the GOK and then, if appropriate, with responsible SRS leadership is the preferred approach in our view. Concerns about the activities of satellite offices, e.g., Amman, Jordan, could be addressed simultaneously.

[1](#)3. (S/NF) Post suggests a similar approach regarding the International Islamic Charity Organization (IICO) (aka: International Islamic Charitable Society) and its various subsidiaries and associated entities. IICO appears to have a good reputation locally. Absent substantive information suggesting it inappropriate, a direct approach offers us opportunity to test the feasibility of bringing on board responsible elements within the OCOS and perhaps the charities themselves.

[1](#)4. (S/NF) The post-election environment in Kuwait provides USG greater latitude than earlier. SRS's political arm, the Islamic Constitutional Movement, lost four of its six National Assembly seats on 5 July. That cut in the charity's political popularity and the onset of the summer vacation doldrums present a more stable political environment than that described in Ref C.

[1](#)5. (S) Should low-key pursuit of responsible action by the charities' leadership and the GOK oversight authorities fail, immediate public designation under E.O. 13224 would become Post's preference. It is unclear to us now, however, what special benefit could be gained by going public first without at least having tried the collaborative and consultative route that remains our preferred first option.

JONES